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17555 PEAK AVENUE MORGAN HILL, CALIFORNIA 95037

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Morgan Hill Civic Center  
Council Chambers  
17555 Peak Avenue  
Morgan Hill, CA 95037

Chair:	Kimberly Leiser
Vice-Chair:	Martin Cheek
Commission Member:	LaRene Green
Commission Member:	Matthew Kelly
Commission Member:	Ronald Locicero
Commission Member:	Mary Seehafer
Commission Member:	Craig C. Van Keulen

## **PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION**

### **REGULAR MEETING**

**November 18, 2014**

**7:00 p.m.**

#### **CALL TO ORDER**

#### **ROLL CALL ATTENDANCE**

#### **DECLARATION OF POSTING OF AGENDA**

In compliance with Government Code 54954.2

#### **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

#### **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Members of the public are entitled to address the Parks & Recreation Commission concerning any item within the Commission's subject matter jurisdiction. Public comments are limited to no more than three minutes. Except for certain specific exceptions, the Parks & Recreation Commission is prohibited from discussing or taking action on any item not appearing on the posted agenda. (See additional noticing at the end of this agenda)

## **COMMUNITY SERVICES DIRECTOR REPORT**

### **ADOPTION OF AGENDA**

### **CONFIRMATION OF NOTETAKER - COMMISSIONER GREEN**

### **CONSENT CALENDAR**

1. APPROVAL OF SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES OF SEPTEMBER 4, 2014
2. APPROVAL OF REGULAR MEETING MINUTES OF SEPTEMBER 16, 2014

### **BUSINESS**

#### **1. REVIEW OF ETHICS POLICY**

##### **Recommended Actions:**

- a. Receive report

#### **2. AQUATICS UPDATE**

##### **Recommended Actions:**

- a. Receive report

#### **3. DOWNTOWN PARKS AND TRAILS DESIGN**

##### **Recommended Actions:**

- a. Make recommendations for Downtown Park and Trail Design.

#### **4. WORKPLAN UPDATES AND DISCUSSION**

##### **Recommended Actions:**

- a. Receive information briefs from Commissioners on PRC Workplan and provide input and direction

#### **5. LIAISON REPORTS**

##### **Recommended Action:** Receive information from Commissioners on liaison assignments

- a. Aquatics Center (AC) (Green, Seehafer)
- b. Centennial Recreation Center (CRC) (Leiser, Van Keulen)
- c. Library, Culture and Arts Commission (LCAC) (Seehafer, Kelly)
- d. Morgan Hill Unified School District (MHUSD) (Cheek, Van Keulen)
- e. Outdoor Sports Center /Morgan Hill Youth Sports Alliance (OSC/MHYSA) (Cheek, Locicero)
- f. Park Maintenance (Leiser)
- g. Bicycle and Trails (Seehafer)
- h. Youth Action Council (Cheek, Locicero)
- i. Help Morgan Hill Parks (Leiser, Locicero, Cheek)

### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

#### **FUTURE COMMISSION INITIATED AGENDA ITEMS:**

Note: in accordance with Government Code Section 54954.2(a), there shall be no discussion, debate and/or action taken on any request other than providing direction to staff to place the matter of business on a future agenda.

**ADJOURNMENT** to the next Regular Parks & Recreation Commission meeting at **7:00 p.m. on January 20, 2014** in City Council Chamber, City Hall, 17555 Peak Avenue, Morgan Hill. Scheduled to take notes is Commissioner Van Kuelen.

**NOTICE**

All public records relating to an open session item on this agenda, which are not exempt from disclosure pursuant to the California Public Records Act that are distributed to a majority of the legislative body less than 72 hours prior to an open session, will be made available for public inspection at the Office of the City Clerk at Morgan Hill City Hall located at 17575 Peak Avenue, Morgan Hill, CA, 95037 at the same time that the public records are distributed or made available to the legislative body. (Pursuant to Government Code 54957.5)

**PUBLIC COMMENTS ON ITEMS NOT APPEARING ON AGENDA**

Following the opening of the Meeting, the public may present comments on items **NOT** appearing on the agenda that are within the Commission's jurisdiction. If your comments require Commission action, your request will be placed on the next appropriate agenda. No discussion or action may be taken until your item appears on a future agenda. You may contact the Clerk for specific time and dates. This procedure is in compliance with the California Public Meeting Law (Brown Act) G.C. 54950.5. Please limit your presentation to three (3) minutes.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS ON ITEMS APPEARING ON AGENDA**

The Parks & Recreation Commission welcomes comments from all individuals on any agenda item being considered by the Commission. Please complete a Speaker Card and present it to the Clerk. This will assist the Members in hearing your comments at the appropriate time. Speaker cards are available from staff. In accordance with Government Code 54953.3 it is not a requirement to fill out a speaker card in order to speak to the Commission. However, it is very helpful to the Commission if speaker cards are submitted. As your name is called, please walk to the podium and speak directly into the microphone. Clearly state your name and address and then proceed to comment on the agenda item. In the interest of brevity and timeliness and to ensure the participation of all those desiring an opportunity to speak, comments presented to the Commission are limited to three minutes. We appreciate your cooperation.

If you are unable to attend the meeting in person and would like comments to be considered by the Commission on an agenda item, comments can be submitted by mail, by e-mail, or in person before 5 pm the day of the Commission meeting. Comments should be addressed to:

Chris Ghione  
PRC Staff Liaison  
17575 Peak Avenue  
Morgan Hill, CA 95037  
[chris.ghione@morganhill.ca.gov](mailto:chris.ghione@morganhill.ca.gov)

**NOTICE**

**AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT (ADA)**

The City of Morgan Hill complies with the Americans with Disability Act (ADA) and will provide reasonable accommodation to individuals with disabilities to ensure equal access to all facilities, programs and services offered by the City. If you need special assistance to access the meeting room or to otherwise participate at this meeting, including auxiliary aids or services, please contact the Office of the City Clerk at City Hall, 17575 Peak Avenue or call 779-7259 or (Hearing Impaired only - TDD 776-7381) to request accommodation. Please make your request at least 48 hours prior to the meeting to enable staff to implement reasonable arrangements to assure accessibility to the meeting.

If assistance is needed regarding any item appearing on the agenda, please contact the Office of the City Clerk at City Hall, 17575 Peak Avenue or call 779-7259 or (Hearing Impaired only - TDD 776-7381) to request accommodation.

**NOTICE**

Notice is given, pursuant to Government Code Section 65009, that any challenge of Public Hearing Agenda items in court, may be limited to raising only those issues raised by you or on your behalf at the Public Hearing described in this notice, or in written correspondence delivered to the Commission at, or prior to the Public Hearing on these matters.

**NOTICE**

The time within which judicial review must be sought of the action by the Commission which acted upon any matter appearing on this agenda is governed by the provisions of Section 1094.6 of the California Code of Civil Procedure.

## **Typical Agenda Item Management**

- Staff Presentation**
- Commissioner Questions**
- Public Comment**
- Commissioner Additional Questions and  
Commission Discussion**
- Commission Recommendation**

# Consent Calendar



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Chair:	Kimberly Leiser
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Commission Member:	LaRene Green
Commission Member:	Matthew Kelly
Commission Member:	Ronald Locicero
Commission Member:	Mary Seehafer
Commission Member:	Craig C. Van Keulen

## **PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION**

### **SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES**

**September 4, 2014**

**7:00 p.m.**

#### **CALL TO ORDER - 7:00 PM**

#### **ROLL CALL ATTENDANCE**

Present: Chair Leiser, Commissioners Cheek, Green, Locicero, Seehafer, and Van Keulen

Absent: Commissioner Van Keulen

#### **DECLARATION OF POSTING OF AGENDA**

In compliance with Government Code 54954.2

#### **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

#### **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Public comments were received from Doug Muirhead re: grant opportunities.

## **ADOPTION OF AGENDA**

## **CONFIRMATION OF NOTETAKER - PROGRAM ADMINISTRATOR EULO**

## **CONSENT CALENDAR**

### **3. APPROVAL OF REGULAR MEETING MINUTES OF MAY 20, 2014 - TABLED**

## **BUSINESS**

### **6. EL TORO TRAIL ACCESS STRATEGY**

Staff reports were received from project engineer, David Gittleson, as well as representatives of the City's police and fire departments and the Santa Clara County Open Space Authority. Staff collectively answer questions from the Commission. The core staff presentation is attached.

Extensive public comment was received from community members.

After considering the staff report and input from the community, the Commission recommended that the Access Strategy be based on the following principles:

1. Creating one primary trail head for those coming from out of town or driving to enjoy the trail system and creating smaller, neighborhood trail heads
2. Focusing the location of a primary trailhead off of DeWitt Avenue, south of Spring Avenue. A primary trailhead should include parking spaces, restrooms, and information kiosks. This location should be designed to discourage parking on neighborhood streets.
3. Promoting the trail system as a healthy recreation alternative for the residents of Morgan Hill. Studies show that the presence of other trail users discourages undesirable behavior.
4. Actively working with affected neighborhoods to create an access system that respects the privacy of those residents.
5. Striving to locate restroom facilities at the primary trailhead.
6. Design and implement a comprehensive trail sign program for parking, access points, and points of interest.
7. Considering emergency response as a factor for establishing trail heads. Multiple trail heads improves the response time for police and fire.
8. Establishing a "Friends of El Toro" volunteer program to help promote the proper use of the trails, to help create a safe environment for trail users, and to help keep the trails free of trash.
9. Actively work with the Open Space Authority to assist with trail maintenance, fauna and flora education and native species protection.

**ADJOURNMENT** to the Regular Parks and Recreation Commission meeting at 7:00 PM on September 16, 2014 in the City Council Chamber, City Hall, 17555 Peak Ave., Morgan Hill. Commissioner Kelly is the scheduled notetaker.





## **EL TORO TRAIL ACCESS STRATEGY**

### **PROJECT BACKGROUND**

El Toro Mountain is located in the eastern foothills of the Santa Cruz Mountains and provides the familiar west side backdrop for the City of Morgan Hill. It is one of the most visible landmarks in Morgan Hill with its silhouette marking the City's official logo. It has long been a hiking destination for local Morgan Hill residents and for years the Morgan Hill Historical Society sponsored an annual community hike to the summit which brought hundreds of hikers at a time wanting to enjoy the beautiful vistas and gain a better understanding of the history and geology of the area.

The Open Space Authority recently purchased a hillside parcel on the southerly flank of El Toro Mountain for the purpose of expanding their open space inventory and to provide a trail for all users that could easily connect to a trail system on El Toro. At this time, none of the Open Space property is open to the public.

Recognizing the need for a City-wide trails master plan, the City Council commissioned the preparation of the *City of Morgan Hill Trails and Natural Resources* Study in 2007. It was officially adopted in late 2007. The study, also known as the Trails Master Plan, is intended to provide a pedestrian and bike system that will incorporate trails along creek corridors, parks, and street, and that will connect to public facilities, parks and open spaces. It is one of the guiding documents for the City to respond to the increased demands for recreational opportunities and to an awareness of the values that the surrounding natural environment provides to the growing population of the area. The Trails Master Plan goals were taken from the City's General Plan, including Goal 18, "Useful, accessible and high-quality parks, recreation and trail facilities and programs" and Action 18.1 "Actively pursue acquisition of appropriate parkland for recommended parks, trails and facilities, and to meet existing and future recreation needs".

A trail system on El Toro Mountain was included in the Trails Master Plan. While the maps and exhibits in the Plan show locations of a potential trail and potential access points, it is understood that the specifics of any portion of trail development requires proper planning before implementation. The El Toro Trail project is also consistent with the Open Space Authority's "Santa Clara Valley Greenprint," A detailed land and resource conservation vision that will guide the Authority's work over the next 30 years.

In 2010, the City Council approved the purchase of an 18-acre hillside parcel, known as the Acton property, for the purpose of expanding open space on El Toro Mountain, preventing future development of that parcel, and to provide a trail opportunity for the citizens of Morgan Hill. As a part of that purchase agreement, a trail access easement was acquired at the westerly terminus of Via Grande Drive. The easement is accessible from the end of Via Grande, a public roadway, and crosses private property retained by the sellers of the Acton parcel.

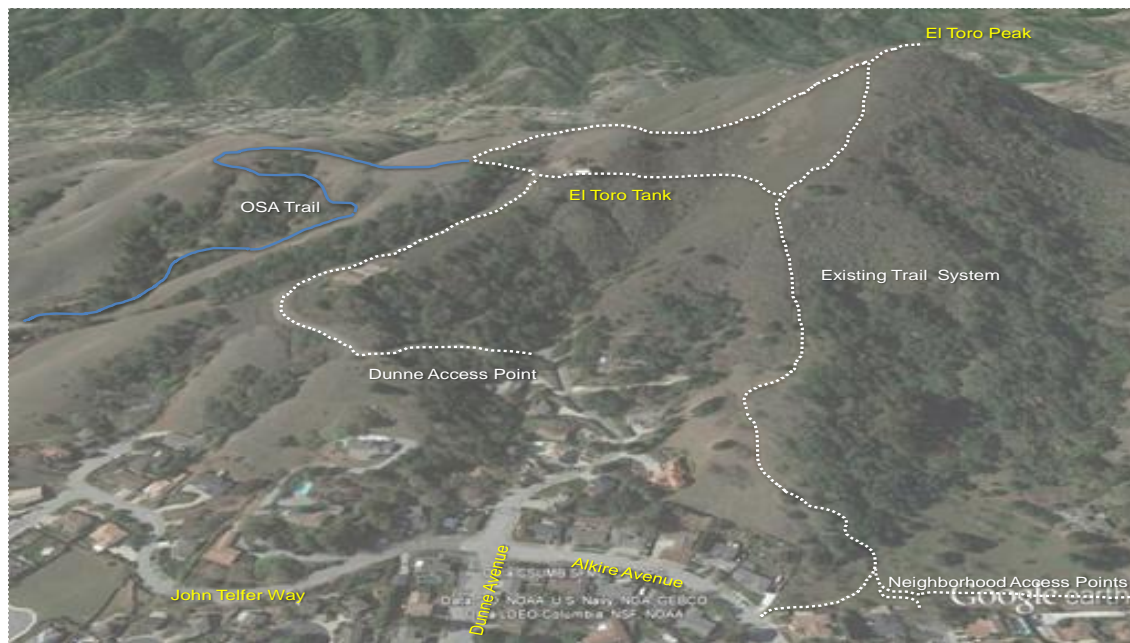
### **SUMMARY OF PREVIOUS CITY COUNCIL ACTIONS**

- City Council approved the Trails and Natural Resources Study in 2007
- City Council approved the purchase of the Acton property which provides an easement for the trail in 2010
- City Council approved TFCA grant funding for \$44,000 in 2012

- City Council approved CIP Budget for last two years in which the El Toro Trail Project is included

## THE NEED FOR AN ACCESS STRATEGY

Given the community's desire to make El Toro Mountain a hiking destination and based on previous City Council direction to provide more hiking opportunities, the City's Public Works staff has been laying out a preliminary trail system on the face of El Toro. After several neighborhood and individual property owner meetings and public discussions at Parks and Recreation Commission (PRC) meetings, it is clear that a multi location trail access strategy is a logical first step in developing hiking trails on El Toro. The access strategy discussed in this report will address recommended locations within the Morgan Hill community for accessing El Toro Mountain. Before opening up any trails for public use, the access points to those trails must be carefully planned with community input.



*Existing Trail System*

## TRAIL CONVERSATIONS WITH THE COMMUNITY

The El Toro Trail project is currently in the planning phase and construction is not anticipated until an access strategy is approved and the access points are identified. The City first developed a conceptual trail plan for El Toro in early 2012 and then prepared a draft trail head plan for a Via Grande access. Staff shared these plans with the Via Grande neighborhood in a meeting with them in June of 2012. The meeting was productive in helping staff understand the thoughts and concerns of the residents living in that neighborhood. Those opposed to the trail project explained to staff that they are currently experiencing nuisance problems generated by people who are accessing El Toro from Via Grande. The following is a summary of the problems expressed by some of the residents at the meeting:

1. Quiet street now dealing with non-resident pedestrian traffic and increased noise
2. Concerns about non-neighborhood trail users and trail user vehicles parked on street
3. Noisy trail users in early morning and evening hours
4. Loitering at trailhead
5. Loss of residential parking, not enough trail user parking
6. Restroom accessibility
7. Potential for trail users to start fires and deter wildlife
8. Trail users leaving trash on the trail and in the neighborhood

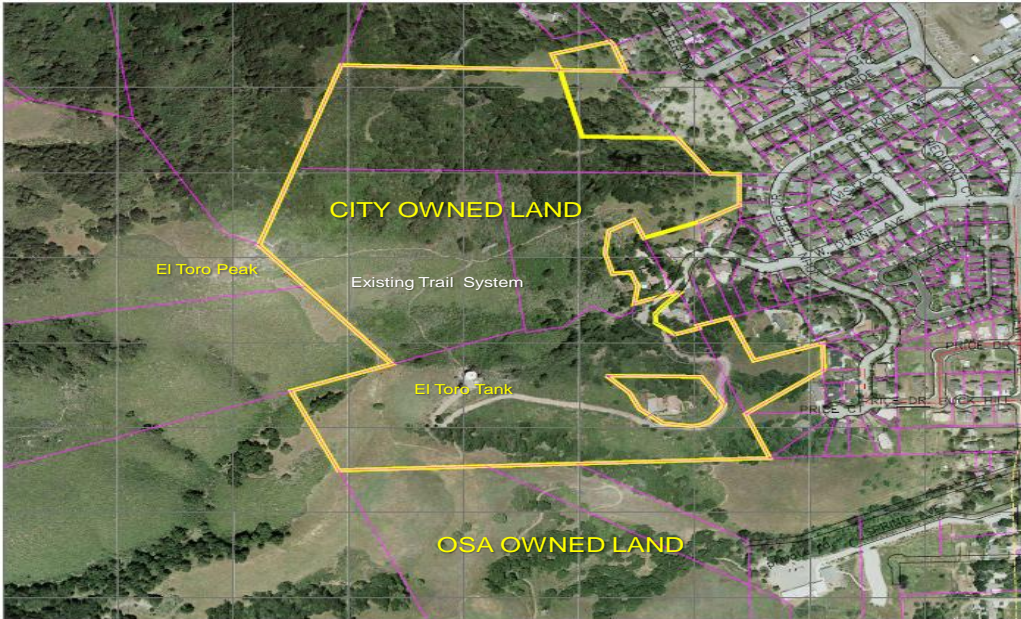
On January 15, 2013, March 19, 2013, and July 22, 2014, staff gave project updates to the Parks and Recreation Commission regarding the El Toro Trail project. The presentation and meeting minutes are available on the City's webpage, <http://www.morganhill.ca.gov/index.aspx?nid=1054> as well as other resources.

## **TRAIL PROJECT OBJECTIVES**

- Develop and implement a community trail system on El Toro mountain consistent with the Trails and Natural Resources Study
- Develop a multi location access strategy that provides community access to El Toro mountain in a manner that provides for adequate amenities and respects neighborhood needs
- Involve the community in the decision making process and address neighborhood concerns
- Partner with the Open Space Authority to acquire land, maintain the trail system, and provide environmental education programs.
- Design a comprehensive and effective safety and security plan that is fiscally sustainable
- Restore the existing vertical trails to a natural condition by planting native materials
- Develop a "Friends of El Toro Trail" community volunteer program to help patrol, maintain, and keep the trail clean on a regular basis.

## **CITY OWNED LAND**

The map below outlines the City owned property. The land is designated Open Space in the City's General Plan. The total acreage is approximately 60-70 acres.



## ACCESS STRATEGY

The Access Strategy is designed to strategically identify trail access points to El Toro Mountain with the appropriate trail head amenities in a manner that makes the trail available to as many citizens as possible while not overly burdening any particular neighborhood. **The success of this strategy depends on both securing a primary trailhead with parking and neighborhood access points.**

This can be accomplished by:

10. Creating multiple trail access points, the number of users at each location will be minimized and therefore lessen the impact on the surrounding neighborhood in regards to noise and security. Multiple access points also allows for redundant access for emergency, maintenance and security purposes.
11. Creating one primary trail head for those coming from out of town or driving to enjoy the trail system and creating smaller, neighborhood trail heads
12. Focusing the location of a primary trailhead off of DeWitt Avenue, south of Spring Avenue. A primary trailhead should include parking spaces, restrooms, and information kiosks. This location should be designed to discourage parking on neighborhood streets.
13. Promoting the trail system as a healthy recreation alternative for the residents of Morgan Hill. Studies show that the presence of other trail users discourages undesirable behavior.
14. Creating one “recessed trailhead” to serve access points at Alkire, Via Grande and Main Avenue. The recessed trailhead will be set back from the neighboring streets and could contain a stretching apparatus and kiosk. This will reduce the risk of loitering at the end of residential streets.
15. Actively working with affected neighborhoods to create an access system that respects the privacy of those residents.



16. Taking advantage and promoting the use of existing public parking such as that found at City Hall/Library facilities. By directing parking away from the neighborhoods, traffic congestion and noise levels will remain low near the access points.
17. Striving to locate restroom facilities at the primary trailhead. Utilize restrooms at public facilities at the Civic Center and Library.
18. Design and implement a comprehensive trail sign program for parking, access points, and points of interest.
19. Considering emergency response as a factor for establishing trail heads. Multiple trail heads improves the response time for police and fire.
20. Establishing a "Friends of El Toro" volunteer program to help promote the proper use of the trails, to help create a safe environment for trail users, and to help keep the trails free of trash.
21. Actively work with the Open Space Authority to assist with trail maintenance, fauna and flora education and native species protection.

Staff has taken into consideration the valuable feedback received at multiple public meetings to create the proposed "Access Strategy". While not every concern can be mitigated, the overall plan is designed for the good of the entire community while respecting the privacy concerns of local neighborhoods. Ultimately, the "Access Strategy" should be presented to the City Council for consideration.

The Access Strategy would define each trail access point, provide for emergency access, and define trail amenities at each access location. In the long run, providing a trail to the summit of El Toro Mountain is equally important. The advantages of a trail system in close proximity to residents are; recreational health benefits, increased economic benefits, minimize existing undesirable behavior, and reduction in automotive travel to reach trailheads.



*Access Strategy Summary*

- **Primary Trailhead-DeWitt Avenue North of Spring Avenue site.** The focus of this location is to create an access point for those inclined to drive to a trail head, including out of town visitors. If possible, such a trail head should include convenient trail amenities such as vehicle parking, restrooms, trash receptacles, water station, bicycle racks, display kiosk, trail maps and signage. This trail head would also serve as emergency and maintenance access. This location in the south part of the City would serve the Open Space Authority well since it is near the property they own. The advantages of this access point are: providing an easy to locate trailhead, providing convenient parking and trail amenities, providing for emergency access, and lessening the impact on existing residential areas. This access point is located just outside of the City limits, in a rural setting, thereby preserving the tranquility of the existing neighborhoods.



*Primary Trailhead Location*

- **Second Trailhead –Edmundson Tank site.** This alternate site could potentially be a secondary trailhead should a site closer to the trail system not be available. In addition, the Trails and Natural Resources Study shows a neighborhood trail connection to the homes behind the Community Park. Emergency and maintenance access would still be off of DeWitt Avenue. The advantages of this alternate access point are; access and parking for visitors, easy to locate trailhead and convenient trail amenities.



*Alternate Primary Trailhead*



- **Neighborhood access points.** These three access points are intended for use by local residents, provides north/south connectivity, and provides multiple loop trails. These access points are currently being used. Using three access points instead of one spreads out the trail users and thereby reduces the impacts to adjacent home owners. Directional signage could also be installed to divert visitors to the primary access point.

### 1. Dunne Avenue:

Mitigation measures include; trash receptacle, dog bag dispensers and measures to discourage visitors from parking on neighborhood streets. There is currently no parking at the end of Dunne Avenue. This access point also provides for multiple loop trails, northern connectivity, and serves as emergency and maintenance access. Advantages of this access point are; unique recreational and health opportunities for locals.



*Dunne Avenue Access Point*

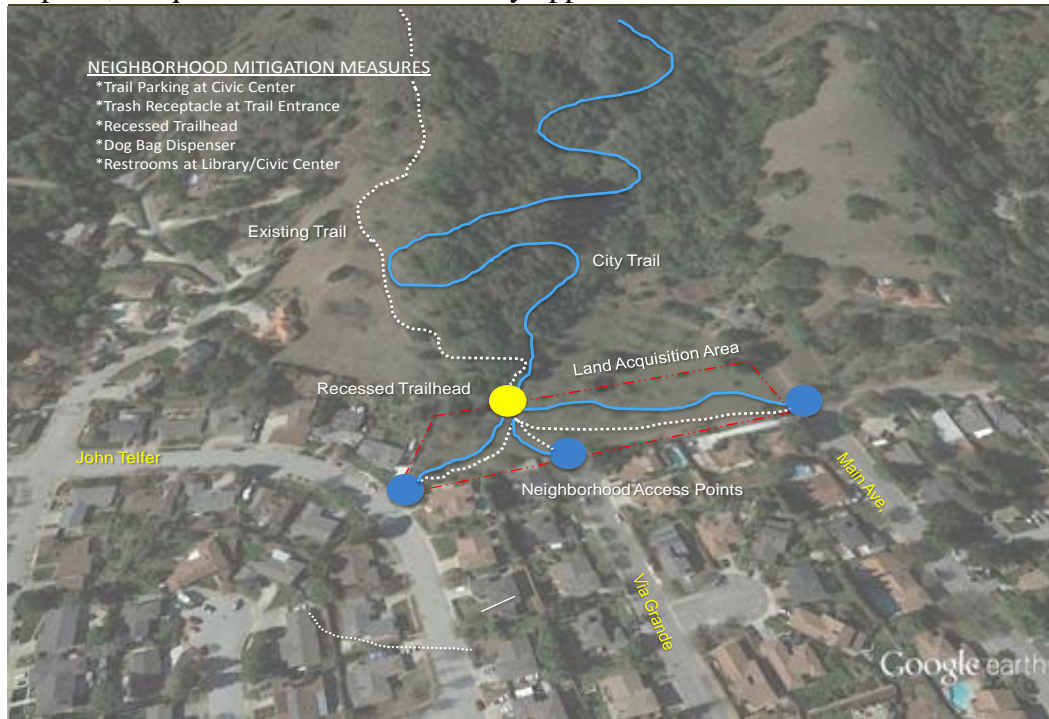


*Dunne Avenue Access Point*



## 2. Alkire Avenue, Via Grande, and Main Avenue:

Mitigation measures include; trail user parking at library/City Hall/DSC and surrounding streets, shared recessed trailhead, trash receptacles, dog bag dispensers, restroom facilities located at Library and DSC when available. This trail segment is envisioned to be no more than 5 feet wide, so vehicle access would be limited. Advantages of this access point are; multiple access points to minimize resident impacts, unique recreational and healthy opportunities for locals.



*Alkire, Via Grande & Main Access Points*



*Alkire Access*

*Point*





*Via Grande Access Point*

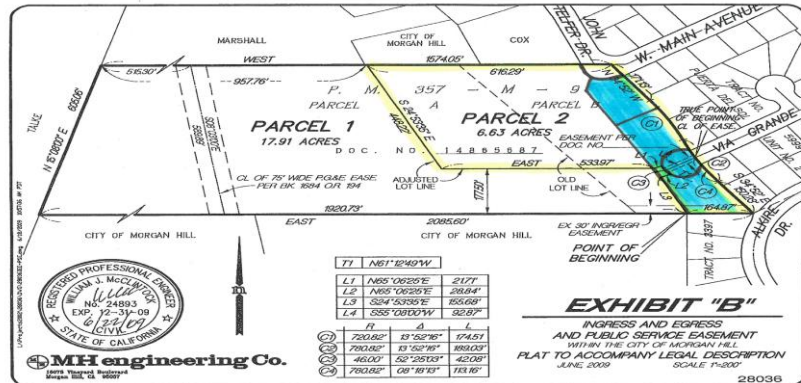


*Main Avenue Access Point*

In order for the City to provide access points for Alkire and Main avenues, the City would need to acquire land/easements, outlined in “red” on page 10 or “blue” on page 12. The City purchased Parcel 1, which included an easement through Parcel 2 for the Via Grande access point. If the City were not to acquire this land, it could be subdivided and developed in accordance with City residential development policies. Purchasing properties such as this for the expansion of open space lands and recreational uses will improve the success of the Access Strategy.

## Acton Parcel Exhibit

Proposed Land Acquisition Area



Acton Parcel Exhibit

- Access to Peak of El Toro**

The City currently owns a large part of the east face of El Toro Mountain and a trail could be built within City owned property. However; staff recommends a longer, gradual slope trail to the top with fewer switchbacks for a more enjoyable trail experience. This will also preserve the face of El Toro Mountain by removing the existing informal trails. To ultimately gain access to the full summit area it will be necessary to acquire property as open space or as an access easement from private property owners. The City and the Open Space Authority have agreed to work together to pursue land purchase or easement rights necessary for a trail to the top if so directed by City Council. It must be pointed out that the City and the Open Space Authority only work with willing sellers.



Peak of El Toro

Mountain

## **TRAIL HOURS AND TRAIL USERS**

The City will work collaboratively with the Open Space Authority to establish trail hours and allowed uses. Trail hours for other Open Space Authority maintained areas are typically restricted to sunrise until ½ hour past sunset. The Open Space Authority typically allows for multi use trails, such as; pedestrians, equestrians, and bicyclists.

## **MAINTENANCE**

The City is working with Open Space Authority to determine the most cost effective way to maintain the trail system. In addition, the City envisions a "Friends of El Toro" volunteer group to walk the trail system and collect trash along the trail corridor on a weekly basis. The Open Space Authority has also been successful with volunteer programs.

## **ON GOING TRAIL MONITORING**

The City and the Open Space Authority will monitor trail use and make trail modifications as necessary for safety and security on a yearly basis. The City will continue to work with the community and impacted neighborhoods in order to address on-going issues.

## **SAFETY/SECURITY**

The safety and security of trail users and surrounding neighborhood is paramount to the success of this project. The City (including its Police Department and Fire Department) is currently evaluating strategies to minimize the potential unsafe conditions. As part of the project design process, safety will be a significant factor. It is important to understand prior to project construction, the City is committed to ensuring that an effective safety plan is developed and ready for implementation.

More specifically, in addition to City and/or Open Space Authority staff monitoring, the City also envisions the aforementioned volunteer group to walk the trail periodically and report any suspicious activity to the local authorities. It is anticipated that both security and fire access would be provided at two locations; DeWitt/church site and end of Dunne Avenue.





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## **PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION**

### **REGULAR MEETING MINUTES**

**September 16, 2014**

#### **CALL TO ORDER – 7:05PM**

#### **ROLL CALL ATTENDANCE**

Present: Chair Leiser, Commissioners Cheek, Green, Kelly, Locicero, Seehafer, and Van Keulen

#### **DECLARATION OF POSTING OF AGENDA**

In compliance with Government Code 54954.2

#### **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

#### **PUBLIC COMMENTS – No Comments**

#### **COMMUNITY SERVICES DIRECTOR REPORT**

#### **ADOPTION OF AGENDA**

#### **CONFIRMATION OF NOTETAKER - COMMISSIONER KELLY**

#### **CONSENT CALENDAR**

4. APPROVAL OF REGULAR MEETING MINUTES OF JULY 15, 2014 - APPROVED

#### **BUSINESS**

**7. SANTA CLARA COUNTY GREENPRINT PRESENTATION BY SANTA CLARA COUNTY OPEN SPACE AUTHORITY**

Report received from the Open Space Authority Staff.

**8. WORKPLAN UPDATES AND DISCUSSION**

Commissioner and staff reports were received.

**9. LIAISON REPORTS**

Commissioner reports were received.

**FUTURE COMMISSION INITIATED AGENDA ITEMS:**

Commissioner Green requested a report on the Aquatics Center Operations.

**ADJOURNMENT** – 9:07PM

Call to Order

Chair Leiser 7:05pm

Roll Call Attendance

Present: Kimberly Leiser  
Martin Cheek  
LaRene Green  
Matthew Kelly  
Ronald Locicero  
Mary Seehafer  
Craig C. Van Keulen

Declaration of Posting of Agenda

Anthony Eulo

Pledge of Allegiance

Commissioner Kelly

Public Comments

No Public Comments

Community Services Director Report

Chris Ghione shared the following updates:

1. City Council will be receiving financial reports from MHYSA in regards to the OSC.
2. The LCAC will now be meeting the First Tuesday of every other month in the City Council Chambers. The first meeting at the new day and location will be Tuesday, November 4<sup>th</sup> 2014.
3. The City of Morgan Hill, YMCA and Concept Cyclery will be partnering to offer a triathlon training class.
4. The Aquatics Center just finished the summer season of its 10<sup>th</sup> year. The numbers are still being reviewed but it was possibly the busiest season for the AC.
5. A new email distribution system for City boards is being developed. It will allow citizen emails to be distributed to board members more efficiently.

Adoption of Agenda

Motion- Locicero

Second- Cheek

All in favor

Consent Calendar

1. Approval of regular meeting minutes of July 15, 2014  
All approved  
Kelly Abstained- Not present at July 15 meeting

Business

1. SANTA CLARA COUNTY GREENPRINT PRESENTATION BY SANTA CLARA COUNTY OPEN SPACE AUTHORITY

OSA General Manager, Andrea Mackenzie, and GIS Coordinator, Jake Smith, presented the Greenprint as a guide for protecting open space and livable communities. The presentation focused on Biodiversity, Agricultural and Working Lands, Water Resources, Recreation and Scenic Viewshed.

2. WORKPLAN UPDATES AND DISCUSSION

Parks Master Plan- Still waiting for staff work to be completed

Healthy and Environmentally Friendly Parks- Meeting to be scheduled

Plan for getting youth more active in parks and recreation- schools being contacted

Engage residents in volunteer service activities- no update

Review and update bicycle and trails master plan- No consultant or RFP yet

Downtown Park planning group- met with a consultant and reviewed plans. They are evaluating the impact of train noise level and gathering community input.

Liaison Reports

Aquatics Center (Green) Reported on recent events at the AC and the installation of a recently donated scoreboard for the competition pool.

CRC (Cheek) Solar panels were installed in the CRC parking lot and the installation of panels on the roof will be completed soon.

LCAC (Kelly) Meeting will be moving to the City Council Chambers and will be held the first Tuesday of every other month starting in November.

MHUSD No report

OSC.MHYSA (Cheek) USA dog agility competition to be held at OSC on October 15<sup>th</sup>-19<sup>th</sup>.

Park Maintenance (Leiser) New ground cover (bark) was being spread at parks.

Bicycle and Trails (Seehafer) Recommended VTA board of directors 2040 plan. This is the vision of transportation for the next 30 years. A camera will be installed on Hill and Dunne to gather pedestrian and bike traffic data.

Youth Action Council No report

Help Morgan Hill Parks No report

Announcements

None

Future Commission Initiated Agenda Items



Commissioner Green initiated a future agenda item to receive a report from the Aquatic Center regarding their operations.

Adjournment

Motion- Cheek

Second- Seehafer

All Approved

Meeting adjourned at 9:07pm

# Item 1



# **CITY OF MORGAN HILL**

## **CITY COUNCIL POLICIES AND PROCEDURES**

**CP 05-01**

**SUBJECT: ETHICS POLICY**

**EFFECTIVE DATE: APRIL 20, 2005; Amended September 7, 2005;  
Amended September 13, 2006, REVIEWED JULY 18, 07**

**ORIGINATING DEPARTMENT: CITY COUNCIL**

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### **1. INTRODUCTION**

Democratic government can function properly only when the citizenry has confidence in its public officials. Once public trust is damaged, it is difficult to reestablish. As a result, a public agency may not be able to function effectively. Moreover, individual careers or reputations may be irreparably damaged. Hence, it is imperative to foster the highest standards of personal integrity and honesty in discharging public duties. Public officials should never compromise their honesty or integrity for personal gain or advancement. They should remain sensitive to the values of the public they serve.

The citizens, businesses and employees of Morgan Hill are entitled to fair and ethical local government. The ethical operation of local government therefore requires that decision-makers be independent, impartial and accountable. It is the Council's expectation that our city government will act in ways that inspire and retain the trust and confidence of the community we serve.

The City of Morgan Hill has adopted this Ethics Policy to promote the highest standards of personal and professional ethics by individuals charged with carrying on the City's business. This is a "values based" approach to ethical behavior, rather than a rules-based system. It is not intended to address all potential ethical issues which may arise, or to replace the various codes of ethics of professional associations but to supplement those codes. Ethics is a top priority for the City of Morgan Hill.

This Policy articulates values that are designed to ensure the public's confidence by requiring that:

- public officials, both elected and appointed, comply with both the letter and the spirit of the laws and policies affecting the operations of government;
- public officials be independent, impartial, and fair in their judgment and actions;
- public office be used for the public good, not for personal gain; and
- public deliberations and processes be conducted openly, unless legally required to be confidential, in an atmosphere of respect and civility.

To that end, and to foster the highest standards of integrity and honesty, the City Council of the City of Morgan Hill hereby adopts this Ethics Policy.

## **2. APPLICATION**

All elected and appointed officials are required to subscribe to this Policy, understand how it applies to their specific responsibilities, and practice the core values set forth herein in their public service.

## **3. CORE VALUES**

Representatives of the City of Morgan Hill shall be *ethical*. This means they should endeavor to practice the following core values:

- a) Honesty. I am honest with my fellow elected officials, the public and others. I am prepared to make unpopular decisions when my sense of the public's best interests requires it; and I take responsibility for my actions, even when it is uncomfortable to do so. I am trustworthy.
- b) Respect. I treat my fellow officials, staff and the public with patience, courtesy and civility, even when we disagree on what is best for the community. I respect others' time by coming to meetings prepared and offering observations only when I believe it will move the discussion forward. I work to gain value from diverse opinions and build consensus. I am approachable, open-minded and willing to participate in dialog and I work to convey this to others. I recognize government's responsibilities to everyone. I convey the agency's care for and commitment to its community members through my words and deeds. I am attuned to, and care about, the needs and issues of citizens, public officials and agency workers.
- c) Responsibility. I do not accept gifts, services or other special considerations because of my public position. I refrain from any action that might appear to compromise my independent judgment. I support merit-based processes for the award of public employment and public contracts. I demonstrate concern for the proper use of agency assets (such as personnel, time, property, equipment, funds).
- d) Fairness. I support the public's right to know and participate in the conduct of the public's business. I am impartial when making decisions. I make decisions based on the merits of the issue.
- e) Loyalty. I respect the confidentiality of information concerning the agency's property, personnel and affairs. When presenting my individual opinions and positions, I explicitly state that my opinions do not represent the agency's position and I will not allow the inference that they do.

4. ACCOUNTABILITY

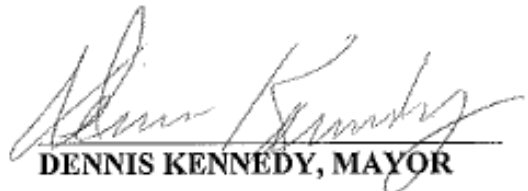
- a) On a yearly basis, on or before the due date of the submittal of the Conflict of Interest – Form 700, all persons subject to this Policy shall sign a statement affirming that they have read and understood the provisions of this Policy within the last 30 days.
- b) Violations of this Policy by commission, committee, board members and anyone appointed by the City Council in any manner, may be punishable, in the discretion of a majority of the City Council, by censure, public reproof, removal from appointed position, or, for serious violations warranting criminal charges, referral of the matter to the Santa Clara County District Attorney's Office for prosecution.

5. ANNUAL REVIEW

The Ethics Policy is to be reviewed on an annual basis.

This policy shall remain in effect until modified by the City Council.

APPROVED:

  
DENNIS KENNEDY, MAYOR

DATE:

9/29/06

# Item 2



## **PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION**

***MEETING DATE: November 18, 2014***

**Agenda Item # 2**

**Prepared by:**

**Nick Calubaquib  
Recreation Manager**

### **AQUATICS CENTER UPDATE**

#### **RECOMMENDED ACTION(S):**

Accept the Aquatics Center Update report.

#### **COUNCIL PRIORITIES SUPPORTED:**

Ongoing Priorities: Supporting Youth, Maintaining Fiscal Responsibility

#### **NARRATIVE:**

The Aquatics Center has been “Making a Splash for 10 Years,” celebrating this milestone in June of 2014. The anniversary has provided an opportunity to celebrate the programs that call the Center their home and the thousands of residents who have benefited from its existence. The purpose of this report is to provide the PRC with an update on operations at the Morgan Hill Aquatics Center (AC) and some of its major accomplishments in recent years.

In February 2009, the City of Morgan Hill hosted a community meeting to collect thoughts on management of the City’s aquatics facilities and programs, listen to possibilities for the future, and to create a framework for the future. During the meeting, several issues were identified by those in attendance. Many of these issues were items that needed immediate attention, while others involved the perceived underutilization of the Aquatics Center facility and many opportunities to improve services provided at other aquatics facilities. The group also established a set of values for what it believed the community’s aquatics programs and facilities should emulate.

Following this initial meeting, staff in the City’s Recreation and Community Services Department assembled a group of citizens to serve on an advisory committee tasked with developing a strategic plan for aquatics in the community. It is envisioned that the community will benefit by having the opportunity to participate in enhanced services. By following a collaborative approach, new revenue may be generated and cost savings realized.

The Strategic Plan identifies the following goals for all aquatics program and facilities in the form of a Community Aquatics Model for Morgan Hill:

1. Produce an optimum mix of programming that provides for all the aquatics needs of the community.
2. Utilize an integrated service delivery model that creates and sustains a base of users that drive program attendance and improve staffing.
3. Maximize cost recovery, to create stable and sustainable revenue sources that offset the cost of operating the aquatics facilities.
4. Actively promote diversity in the programs and facility usage.

In order to achieve these goals, four strategic initiatives were developed:



1. Partnership Opportunities
2. Building the Base
3. Community Needs Based Facility Scheduling
4. Maintaining the Core & Promoting Enhancement Opportunities

Staff work plans are developed using the strategic initiatives and serve as the basis for continued operational improvements and the development of new programs.

The following is a summary of the major program areas that take place at the AC.

**Membership:**

In an effort to increase participation and enhance community wellness, Centennial Recreation Center (CRC) membership was expanded to include the Aquatics Center in 2008. Members enjoy access to both facilities for one price that can either be paid in full on an annual basis or paid incrementally on a monthly basis. Membership activities at the AC include aqua fitness classes, lap swim and access to summer recreation swim. Daily admission rates are also available to both facilities. This integrated service delivery model has proven to enhance management efficiencies and increase membership revenue and the sustainability of both facilities. See Attachment A for AC/CRC Membership Units, Revenue and Usage statistics.

Membership continues to be the largest source of revenue for the Community Services Department and is key to the long term sustainability of operations at the Aquatics Center.

**Splash Aquatics:**

Splash Aquatics programs include a wide array of aquatic programming offered by the Department. In efforts to “produce an optimum mix of programming that provides for all the aquatics needs of the community,” the Department offers programs for a large range of ages and skill levels, while working with community groups to complete the spectrum. Splash Aquatics includes the Learn to Swim Program, Splash Swim Team and Water Polo and Diving Clubs and Masters Swimming.

*Learn to Swim Program*

The youth Learn to Swim Program is designed to give young people the building blocks for a lifetime of safe water enjoyment. Eight different skill levels are offered for youth ages six months through 14 years. The program is offered year round at the CRC and during the summer months at the Aquatics Center. See Attachment A for Learn to Swim Registration and Revenue statistics.

The number of registrations for swim lessons and the associated revenue has risen steadily over the past few years. Trends have shown an increase in demand for swim lessons offered year round (at the CRC) versus only during the summer months. In addition, changes in registration numbers do not always change proportionately with revenues as the demand for more costly private lessons fluctuates years to year. Current program improvements include a greater emphasis on Red Cross Water Safety Instructor training and certification for lesson instructors.

*Splash Swim Team and Water Polo and Diving Clubs*

The Splash Swim Team and Water Polo Club was developed in 2010 as a result of the Aquatics Strategic Plan. Through discussions during the process, the need for a recreational swim team was identified to fill the gap between swim lessons and competitive swimming (e.g. competitive or school-based swim teams). The Splash Swim Team was designed with a recreation and developmental asset-building focus to give young people who had completed the higher levels of the Learn to Swim Program another option to continue swimming if they were not ready for or did not

want to swim competitively. Club members are ages 5-18 and pay an AC/CRC Membership fee, plus an additional Team fee. The Splash Swim Team provides its members with five to six practice times throughout the week; however, because it is recreation-based, there is no obligation to attend a set number of practices as is typical with competitive swim clubs. Attendance at the summer cabana club swim meets and other meets that Club attends throughout the year is also optional. Membership to the Splash Swim Team also includes one day of water polo practice.

This program has been extremely successful and membership has grown year after year. Because AC/CRC membership is required for Club membership, team revenue helps to support the on-going sustainability of the AC, while providing the member with access to all of the other programs and facilities associated with membership. See Attachment A for Splash Swim team Membership and Revenue statistics.

The Splash Diving Club was created in 2013 and provides another recreational aquatic opportunity. Practice is offered one day per week for three different ability levels. Diving Club members pay for an AC/CRC Membership, plus a Diving Club membership, with a discount given to Splash Swim Club members.

### *Masters Swimming*

A Masters Swim program is offered for adults ages 18 and over, with five coached practices per week. Similar to the Splash Swim Team, AC/CRC Membership is required for a Masters Swim Membership. Efforts to increase participation in this program are currently underway, including the development of a more robust marketing strategy and the implementation of programs designed to assist individuals in gaining the skills and abilities necessary to participate in the Masters program. Pre-Masters private lessons and Stroke Development classes are both available to adults wishing to improve their swim skills.

### **Water Safety**

Several American Red Cross Lifeguard certification courses are conducted at the Aquatics Center annually. These courses provide participants with the skills and certification necessary to obtain work as lifeguards. An average of 35 new lifeguards are certified annually.

In the summer months, a Junior Lifeguard training and volunteer program is also offered for youth ages 12-14. The program emphasizes teamwork, leadership and aquatic safety, while introducing young people to aquatic recreational and employment opportunities. Participants complete a two-week training course and then are given the opportunity to serve as volunteer Junior Lifeguards and Swim Instructors throughout the summer. An average of 25 youth participate in the program each summer.

### **Summer Recreation Swim**

The Summer Recreation Swim season at the AC remains one of the cornerstones of the facility's operations. With fun for kids young and old, the Center has a number of attractions to make for a great summer day. The Aquatics Center opens Memorial Day weekend and operates through the third weekend in September. For the first three weeks of operation, the School Dayz program allows schools to host their end of the year parties. During the regular summer season, general admission prices are charged, however, AC/CRC Membership is valid for entry during recreational swim hours. Family and individual season passes are also available, as well as party packages and group rates. See Attachment A for Summer Recreation Swim statistics. Attendance during the season is extremely weather dependent, with summers with the highest average temperature yielding greater attendance

and revenue. The 2014 season was the best attended and highest grossing season in the past several years.

### **Special Events**

The AC hosted three successful special events in 2014. To commemorate the AC's 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary, several celebratory events were planned. The festivities began over Memorial Day Weekend (May 24-26) as the Aquatics Center opened for the summer recreation swim season. The agenda for the weekend included speeches by dignitaries, music, swim group booths, synchronized swimming and diving demonstrations, games and activities for the whole family. Three Morgan Hill Community days were also held throughout the summer, during which admission to the facility was free to all Morgan Hill residents. A total of 874 community members took advantage of this.

The AC co-hosted a Family Night event on July 4<sup>th</sup> in partnership with the Morgan Hill Aquatic Foundation. The evening included games and activities, food, music and prizes. The 200+ attendees were able to swim into the evening hours and enjoy the fireworks from the pool deck.

On October 11, the AC hosted its second annual Doggie Dip Day. During this fun event, dogs are given the opportunity to swim in the recreational pool. The event occurs after the end of the summer season and the pool is completely treated before it is reopened for human use the following summer. This year's event drew 87 dogs and their owners to an exciting day at the pool.

### **Rentals/Other User Groups**

Three other user groups also call the AC their home. The Morgan Hill Swim Club (Makos Swim Team) holds practice at the facility six days per week. The competitive-based Club has produced many talented swimmers. Membership has grown over the past several years and averages approximately 135 swimmers. The Club also hosts several large swim meets throughout the year. See below for more details.

The South Valley Manta Water Polo Club practices at the AC two days per week and offers programs for youth and adults. The newly revived club has also grown over the past two years.

The California Synchro Masters (synchronized swimming) also holds practices at the AC on Saturday mornings. The participants recently had much success in a US Masters event held in Panama City, Florida, where the Team won gold in the Solo, Duet and the Team events.

### **Swim Meets**

The AC hosts an average of 12 swim meets annually. Meets range from one to four days in length, drawing anywhere from 200-2,000+ swimmers and their families. The Morgan Hill Swim Club, Gilroy Gators and Valley Cabana League frequently rent the facility to host these events that draw large amounts of visitors to Morgan Hill hotels, restaurants and retail shops. The largest event hosted at the AC is the Far Western Short Course Championships, held at the end of March/early April. The four-day event draws over 2,000 swimmers and their families from across the US, Mexico and Canada. The AC has had the honor of hosting the event for 6 of the past 8 years. The Morgan Hill Swim Club was awarded as the host club in 2014 and will manage the event again in 2015.

Swim meets serve as important drivers of local economic development and help to further Morgan Hill's reputation as a sports destination. They also serve as a major source of income to the host club. In October 2014, the City Council adopted rental rates for swim meets that included a payment arrangement for local swim clubs that involves a revenue share in lieu of a flat rental rate for use of the facility. City staff and Swim Club Board Members met to devise this arrangement with the intention of encouraging increased collaboration between resident clubs and the City to ensure that

swim meets are successful and that they generate the greatest amount of revenue possible. The Swim Club and City plan to implement this new arrangement beginning with the three-day Westerns Championships meet, scheduled for December 5<sup>th</sup>-7<sup>th</sup>.

There are many exciting programs and events that take place at the Morgan Hill Aquatics Center. Through on-going evaluation and strategic improvements, use of the facility year round has increased dramatically over the past several years as the number of participants in all programs has grown. Staff continue to evaluate operations and implement enhancements, while using the Aquatic Strategic Plan as their guide and working closely with users and user groups to maximize resources. The results of the continued efforts in these areas have helped the community to come closer to achieving the strategic goals of producing an optimum mix of programming that provides for all the aquatics needs of the community, utilizing an integrated service delivery model that creates and sustains a base of users that drive program attendance and improve staffing, maximizing cost recovery, to create stable and sustainable revenue sources that offset the cost of operating the aquatics facilities and actively promoting diversity in the programs and facility usage.

**LINKS/ATTACHMENTS:**

Attachment A: Program Statistics

# Item 3



## **PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION**

**MEETING DATE:** *November 18, 2014*

### **DOWNTOWN PARK AND TRAILS DIRECTION AND DISCUSSION**

**Agenda Item # 3**

**Prepared by:**

**Chris Ghione**  
Community Services  
Director

#### **RECOMMENDED ACTION(S):**

Provide specific feedback on Park Design concepts.

#### **COUNCIL PRIORITIES SUPPORTED:**

Ongoing Priorities: Supporting Youth, Advocating for Infrastructure Improvements

#### **NARRATIVE:**

In May 2014, the Parks and Recreation Commission discussed the concept for downtown parks in Morgan Hill. The Commission gave some general feedback at that time and the project was then discussed as part of the overall Downtown Placemaking strategy with the City Council later that month. The goal of the Placemaking Investment Strategy is to build on the current success of Downtown, leverage upcoming redevelopment of the Development Opportunity Sites (former Redevelopment Agency sites), and capitalize on the momentum of the current market to create an interesting, vital, prosperous, and sustainable destination that people will visit time and time again with their families, two-legged and four-legged friends.

The Council then continued moving the project forward choosing to hire Joni Janecki Landscape Architects to begin the concept design process. The designers began the preliminary work on this project in September and are now in the early stages of concept design. The planned programming for the designated park and trail spaces is included as Attachment A. It includes three distinct areas:

1. Depot Street Park
2. Llagas Creek Park
3. Nob Hill Trail

City staff has engaged downtown residents and businesses with public meetings over the last week and collected input. This input is available in Attachment B.

The Commission is being asked to provide specific feedback on the park planning. As part of this feedback it would be appropriate for the Commission to answer the following questions:

1. What Trail amenities should be included as part of the Nob Hill Trail?  
Water stations? Slides/integrated play features? Viewing Deck? Stairs? Others?
2. What should the activity level at the Depot Street Park take? At the Llagas Creek Park?
3. What unique features and amenities could be added to promote people using the downtown parks and downtown in general?
4. What are the largest priorities for these park areas?

Following this meeting, staff and the PRC Subcommittee for Downtown Parks and Trails will provide further input to the designers to move them forward on conceptual park designs.

#### **LINKS/ATTACHMENTS:**

Resident and Business Feedback (Recent and Past)  
Planning Maps

## November 13 Parks and Trails Meetings Feedback

### Comments by Multiple Participants

- Trails should be paved as often as possible for multi use including bicycles
  - o Shade for paved trails is important.
  - o Possible use of reflective concrete materials to keep paved areas cool
- Water Fill Stations/Fountains are important in all park areas
- Signage between park spaces is critical
- Loss of Parking is a Concern (Depot and Llagas Creek Park)
- Llagas Creek Park Comments
- Fencing and other protective measures to protect private property was brought up by residents (Llagas Creek Park and Nob Hill Trail)
- Volleyball group pushing for location of six courts.
- Llagas Creek Park
  - o Getaway from traffic and sit down, benches and tables
  - o Redo Creek with hardscaping and native drought resistant plants
  - o No BBQ Areas to impactful in that area
  - o Find ways prevent overnight use
  - o Design a natural space with natural features, maybe the natural trail that has been previously discussed.
- Depot Park
  - o It will be loud so make it the place for loud active elements
  - o Safety fencing, sound walls and other precautions will be important for child safety
  - o Better location for child/youth play features based on future residences
  - o A mini park or playground could fit in here
  - o A good place for music, street performers, mini amphitheater
  - o A perfect place for activities
  - o There should be some flexible space
- Nob Hill Trail
  - o Both meeting felt the trail connection was vital and that it should be a priority
  - o If we can make the trail paved and useable by bicyclists that would be good.
  - o Pathway should be strategic including tree.
  - o Viewing platform is supported, but should not have views of private residences.
  - o Improvements on Third Street and Depot Street are needed to make the access to the trail useable. Pavement is in bad shape.
  - o Trail Safety on the Hill is a concern. Disagreement if Trail will hurt or hinder safety aspect.
  - o Sections of stairs are a very good idea, maybe constructed creatively. There should be a trail route without stairs if possible.
  - o There should be approaches to limit erosion

### Individual Resident Concerns and Comment by Single Participants

- Active Parks and Downtown Don't Always Exist
- Downtown Skate Park
- How will we get people up the road on Third Street to the trail?
- Multiple slides and activities on hill not as good of an idea.
- We should discuss Trail Watch program
- One resident very worried about erosion of hill caused by deer. Several other issues relating to deer. Also concerned erosion could impact her property.
- One though murals on the Water tank would be great, another did not like the idea

# Downtown Parks and Trails Engagement Meeting Recap

7pm Thursday, May 1, 2014 at the Community and Cultural Center

## Attendance

- 17 members of the public were in attendance.
- It was a diverse group with some downtown business, downtown residents, and other community members.

## General Brainstorming Ideas

- Open space downtown is critical. We need every inch we can get as we move more people to downtown and density increases.
- If we do create trails they should be open during the day only.
- We should have a downtown bathroom and it would be better in a park than a parking garage.
- Some thoughts were shared on closing Monterey to traffic during most of the day/evening and making it a linear park (from 3<sup>rd</sup> to Main). Others did not agree it was a good idea.
- Others mentioned that they thought narrowing Monterey to a single lane and installing a bike lane was a good idea.
- The CCC is an isolated island, but is a valuable downtown open space. We should look to connect via landscaping, walking routes, and wayfinding signs to downtown.
- The CCC could be a good option for creating more of a downtown family activity use. Including use of playground at preschool. Enhanced playground at the CCC. Scheduled programmed “play time” with recreation leaders.
- CCC Plaza/Amphitheater area should be used more during the day (programmed activities).
- The strip of land between the railroad tracks and the courthouse is a good area for dogs. Brought up mini dog park possibly here.
- We should be thinking of building an “all-access” park instead of a parking garage was a thought be a couple of people. The like the idea of using private land for a larger park.
- Good discussion of an adventure type park like Dennis the Menace Park in Monterey. Most thought this was a GREAT idea. Some thought this could work just as well at another park site versus downtown.
- Little Llagas Creek Connection to downtown is important to many in attendance.
- Dog Friendly water fountains were mentioned as a good idea.
- Would like to see pocket park next to the Good Fork improved.
- Bike parking in downtown would be important.
- Climbing wall could be added to the garage.

## Theme Discussion

- Passive Park Areas
  - The group felt the 3<sup>rd</sup> street park area was still the best location for a passive park area
- Active Wellness and Fitness Opportunities
  - The Hilltop Trail Loop could help to fill this need.
  - Par course equipment was brought up as a good idea but it wasn’t important to very many people in attendance.
- Pet Friendly Attractions



- The downtown area should be made more pet friendly (leash posts, doggie water fountains, etc.)
- Dog walking areas might be better than an off leash dog park with space limitations.
- Thought there might not be enough room anywhere for the two areas needed for an off leash dog park.
- Family Oriented Activities that Attract People Downtown
  - The Active Adventure Park Elements were discussed and thought of as a good idea.
  - Dennis the Menace Park in Monterey was what was referenced as containing unique features that would attract people.
  - The group felt a better location for this park would be closer to depot than the Third St site since it would be closer to more of the new residences.
- Making all of downtown like a park was brought up and discussed
  - Public Art through downtown
  - Shade structures through downtown
  - Benches through downtown
  - More lush plants all through downtown
  - Ongoing parklets
- Connecting Park Areas and New Residences to the Downtown
  - Walking areas leading to and through the side streets
  - Trail Opportunities

#### Specific Park Discussion Brought up by the Attendees

- Third Street Park
  - Group felt passive use was better. Passive meaning:
    - Pathways
    - Maybe some interpretive features relating to wildlife
    - Benches and grassy areas
  - Someone did bring up use as a parking lot, but the homeowner next to it brought up potential issues in doing that (lighting & safety).
  - Completing walkthrough trail from Second to Third Street on small park area makes sense because many kids from Britton already cut through that area.
  - Would we need to widen the third street bridge.
- Hill Top Trail
  - Positive feedback on connecting trail.
  - Positive feedback on circular loop trail for health and wellness.
  - Group understood it would be a steeper hiking trail and that accessible connections to downtown would need to be done via other means. Steep hiking trail is good.
  - Safety precautions for the trail would be important (lock at night, specific use hours were ideas mentioned).

#### Other Items

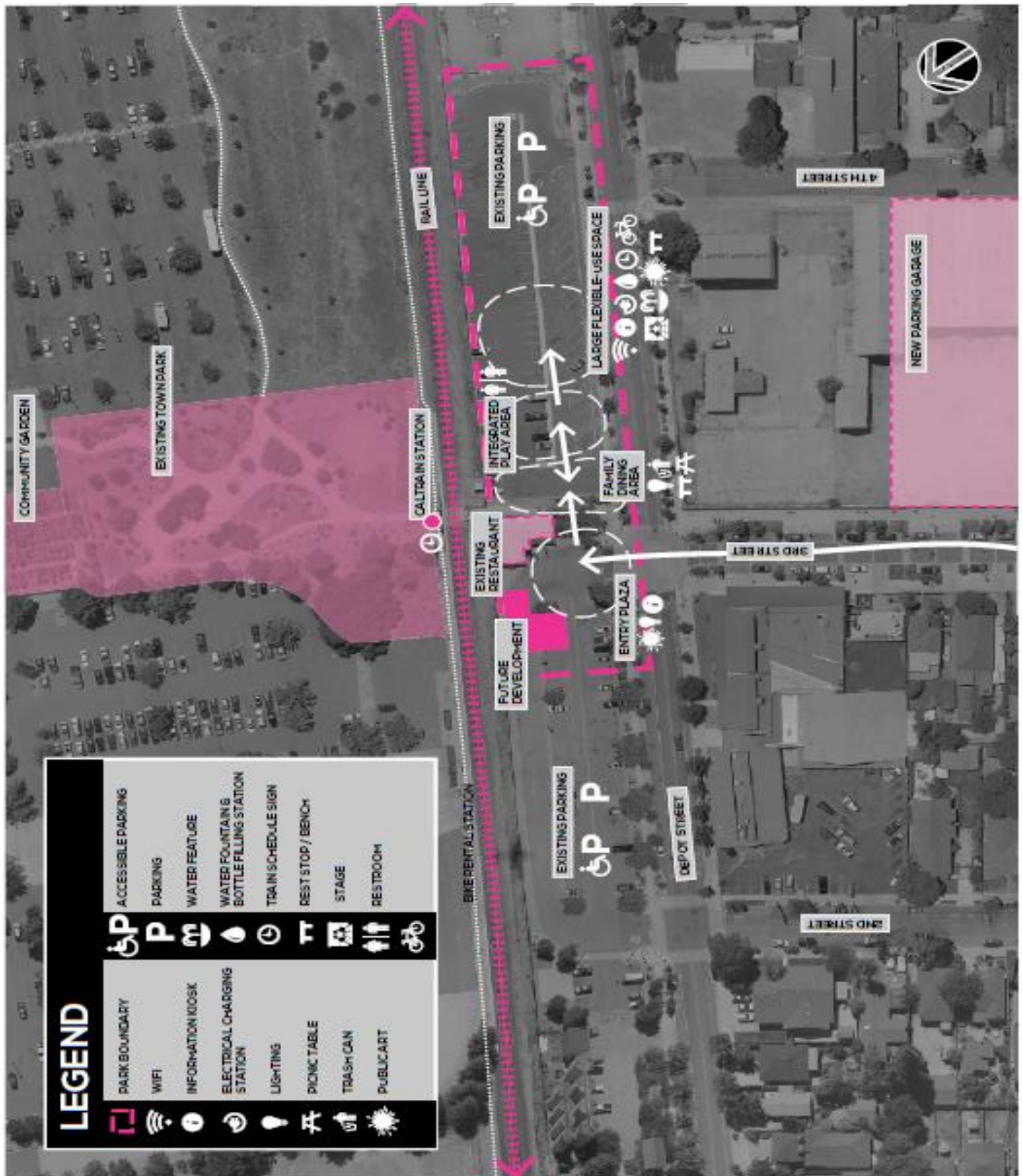
- Email the group all past park and trail planning document links (including trail maps).
- Is there an upcoming agenda item on Water District Agenda dealing with flood control?

## **Parks and Recreation Commission Meeting 5/21/14**

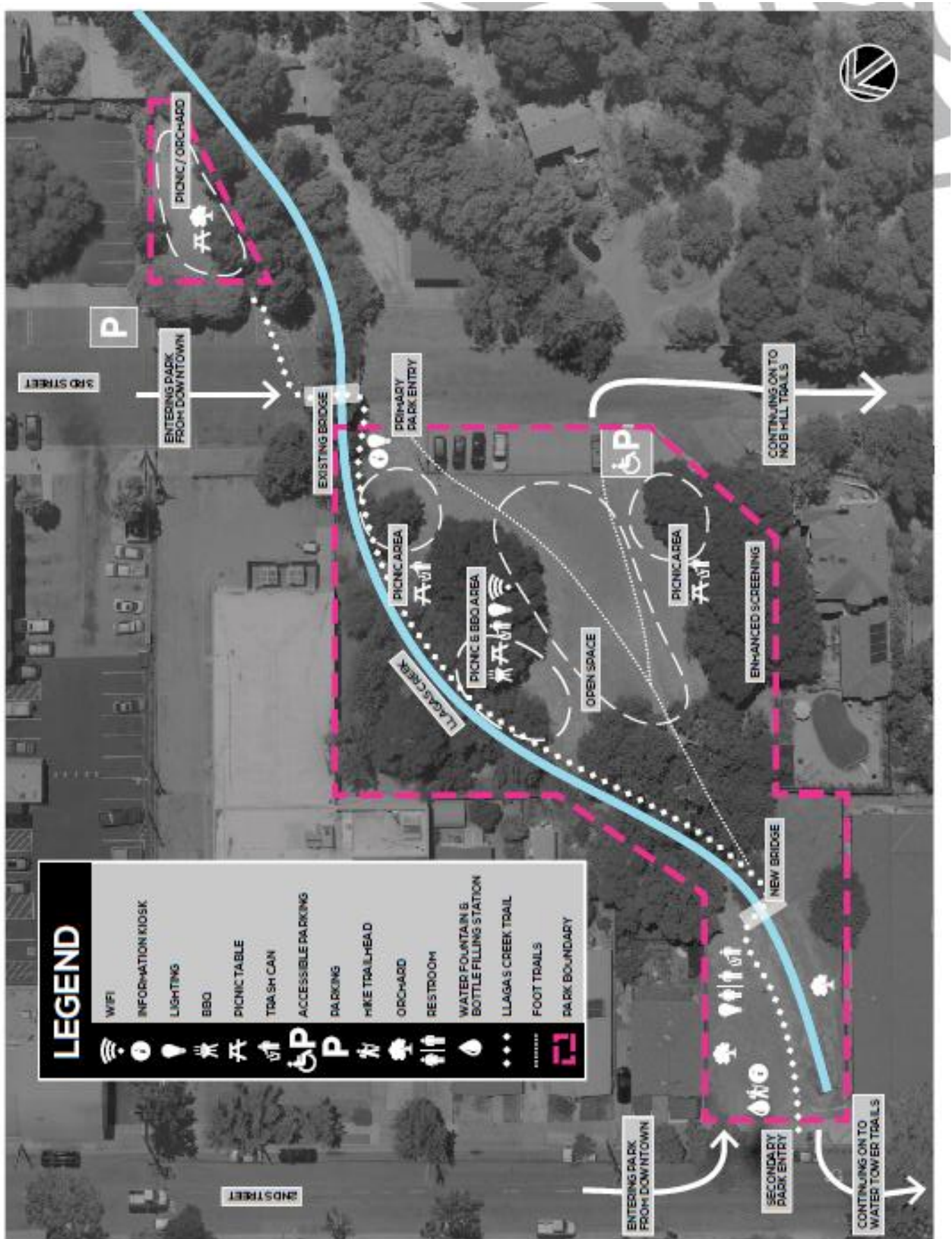
### **Discussion on Downtown Park Concepts**

- Mid –block crossing on Butterfield
- Bike safety on third connection
- Lawns that don't take as much water. Planting alternatives.
- Ball wall
- No smoking
- Parks can help people want to return., band shell and bathrooms. Bigger parks are better.
- Activity at the parks is good. BBQ and Picnic Benches.
- Pedestrian over passing.
- Not picnic things use small parcel wisely.
- Big chess board like Santana row
- Bike racks

## Depot Street Park

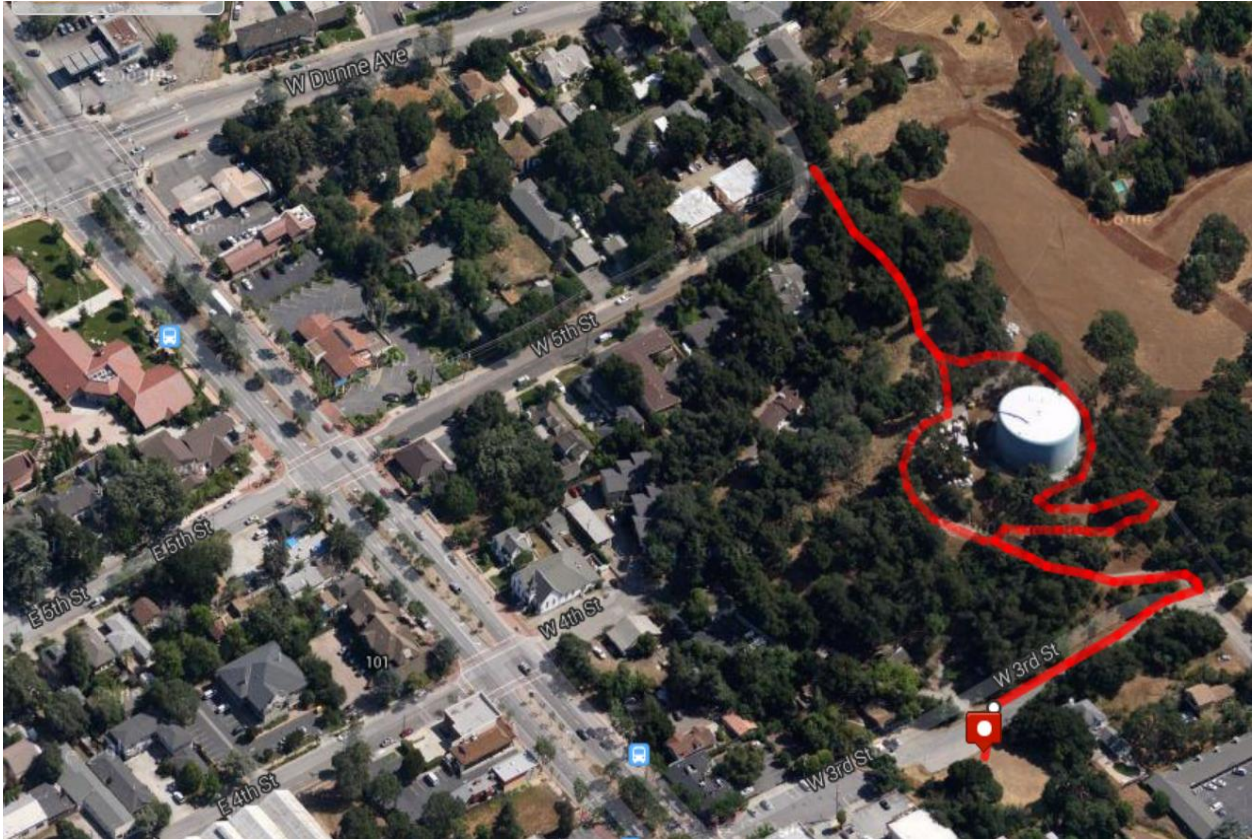


# Llagas Creek Park





## Nob Hill Trail



# Item 4



Parks & Recreation Commission

**FY 2014-15 Work Plan**

City Council Approved: \_\_\_\_\_

<b>Project (Commissioner Responsible)</b>	<b>City Council Priority or Goal Supported</b>	<b>Start Date</b>	<b>Completion Date</b>	<b>Staff Resources Required</b>	<b>Desired Outcome</b>
Participate and Review the Development of the Parks and Recreation Master Plan and Community Park Master Plan  (Commissioners Kelly, Van Keulen, Leiser)	Support Youth Infrastructure Community Engagement Public Safety Economic Development	9/14	6/15	CSD Director (Moderate) Program Administrator (Significant)	City Council approval of the updated Master Plan that will serve as the foundation for future park improvements
Develop Plan for Healthy and Environmentally-Friendly Parks  (Commissioners Seehafer, Leiser)	Protect Environment Public Safety	9/14	3/15	Program Administrator (Minimal) Maintenance Manager (Minimal) Management Analyst (Minimal)	City Council approval of Healthy Parks Plan
Develop a Plan to Get Youth More Active in Parks and Recreation  (Commissioners Locicero, Cheek)	Support Youth	8/14	3/15	Recreation Manager (Minimal)	Plan for youth involvement

Engage Residents of All Ages in Volunteer Service Activities at Parks, Trails, and Facilities  (Commissioners Leiser, Locicero, Cheek)	Support Youth Infrastructure Community Engagement Public Safety	7/14	6/15	CSD Director (Minimal) Program Administrator (Minimal) Recreation Coordinator (Moderate)	Individuals, groups, and businesses becoming more involved in improving parks, trails, and public facilities
Participate and Review the Development of a Bicycle and Trails Master Plan  (Commissioners Seehafer, Cheek, Green)	Support Youth Infrastructure Community Engagement	9/14	6/15	CSD Director (Minimal) Program Administrator (Moderate) Public Works (Moderate)	City Council approval of the updated Master Plan that will serve as the foundation for future bicycle and trail improvements
Participate in the Planning and Development of Downtown Park  (Commissioners Green, Seehafer, Kelly)	Support Youth Infrastructure Community Engagement Public Safety Economic Development	7/14	6/15	CSD Director (Significant)	Recommend a plan for City Council approval that includes establishing a park, Hilltop trail, playground and connections between them
<b>Staff Resources Required:</b> 0-50 hours: Minimal 51-100 hours: Moderate 100+ hours: Significant					